

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 02261 090836Z

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SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATIONS AT 4TH OF JULY REBILD FESTIVAL

BEGIN SUMMARY: LARGEST REBILD FESTIVAL EVER HELD TOOK PLACE
JULY 4 BUT WAS MARRED BY ABOUT 200 DEMONSTRATORS FROM LEFT-
WING THEATER GROUP. MAJORITY OF PRESS CONDEMNED DEMONSTRATIONS
AND APPARENT SLOPPY POLICE PREPARATIONS. DANES ARE NOW ASKING
THEMSELVES HOW PERMISSIVE DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY CAN BE.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE LARGEST REBILD FESTIVAL IN RECENT HISTORY GATHERED
SOME 25,000 PEOPLE ON JULY 4 IN PRESENCE OF QUEEN
MARGRETHE, PRINCE HENRIK, PRINCE JORGENSEN, FORMER
ANDERSEN AND AMBASSADOR DEAN. FIRST 15 MINUTES OF PROGRAM
WAS TRANSMITTED BY SATELLITE TO US BUT ONLY QUEEN'S SPEECH
WAS CARRIED ON AMERICAN TV. AS QUEEN BEGAN HER BRIEF
GREETINGS TO THE US, WHICH INCLUDED THANKS FOR HER TRIP,
GROUP OF YOUTHS AROUND FRINGES OF GATHERING BEGAN TO CHANT
IN AMERICAN INDIAN STYLE. QUEEN CONTINUED BUT WAS
OBVIOUSLY DISTRACTED. DEMONSTRATORS THEN MOVED CLOSER
CARRYING PLACARDS, VIETNAMESE FLAGS, ETC. ONE GOT CLOSE
ENOUGH TO THROW SACK OF ANIMAL BLOOD ONTO STAGE NARROWLY
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PAGE 02 COPENH 02261 090836Z

MISSING QUEEN BUT SPLASHING PRINCE. PROGRAM CONTINUED

AS AMBASSADOR READ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. POLICE SLOWLY
BEGAN TO PULL DEMONSTRATORS FROM CENTER AREA AND REMAINDER
OF EVENT WENT ON AS PLANNED.

2. DANISH TV HANDLED SITUATION WELL SO THAT FULL EXTENT
OF DEMONSTRATION DID NOT APPEAR ON AMERICAN OR DANISH SCREENS.
GRUOP CONTINUED TO TRY TO DISRUPT PROCEEDINGS BY
ARRIVING ON HORSEBACK IN WESTERN DRESS, PUTTING ON
KU KLUX KLAN DEMONSTRATON AND TRYING TO HAUL DOWN FLAGS.
MOST OF THIS WAS STOPPED BY POLICE OR BY MEMBERS OF THE
CROWD WHO WERE VEHEMENTLY DENOUNCING PROTESTORS.

3. ALL OF THIS TOOK PLACE DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE
POLICE HAD BEEN AMPLY WARNED AS TO EXACTLY WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN. INFACIT, THE DMONSTRATORS HAD EVEN TOLD THE PRESS
IN ADVANCE WHAT THEY PLANNED TO DO. FIFTY-SIX OF THE
DEMONSTRATORS WERE ARRESTED, BUT ALL BUT TWO WERE
RELEASED THE NEXT DAY. LOCAL POLICE CHIEF SAID HE HAD NO
AUTHORITY TO DO ANYTHING ELSE, BUT GOVT PROSECUTOR IS
ATTEMPTING TO SEE IF HE CAN OVERRIDE LOCAL POLICE DECISION.

4. DMONSTRATIONS RECEIVED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE, BOTH ON
LOCAL TV AND IN THE PRESS. FOLLOWING FACTUAL REPORTAGE
OF EVENTS, MEDIA TURNED TO EDITORIAL PROTEST AGAINST THE
DEMONSTRATORS AND AGAINST THE APPARENT LACK OF CONCERN BY
DANISH GOVT INSTITUTIONS. THIS HAS LED TO FURTHER SELF-
EXAMINATION WITHIN DENMARK AS TO HOW FAR SUCH GROUPS CAN
BE ALLOWED TO DISRUPT MEETINGS WITH WHICH THEY DO NOT
SYMPATHIZE. ONE FURTHER IRRITANT IS THAT THEATER GROUP,
WHICH IS KNOWN AS SOLVOGNNEN, IS SUBSIDEIZED BY MINISTRY
OF CULTURE.

5. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS OF EDITORIAL COMMENT IN PAST
THREE DAYS:

A. POLITIKEN (LEFT OF CENTER): QUOTE WE ARE FED UP
WITH SOLVOGNNEN BECAUSE WE DON'T SYMPATHIZE MUCH WITH
THOSE WHO USE THE LIBERTIES OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY IN
ORDER TO PREVENT OTHER PEOPLE FROM ENJOYING THE SAME
LIBERTIES. DANISH-AMERICANS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO
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CELEBRATE THE 4TH OF JULY WITHOUT HAVING THEIR SPEECHES
AND SONGS DISTURBED BY HOWLING AND WATER BOMBS.

B. BERLINGSKE TIDENDE (INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE):
QUOTE WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IN A COMMUNIST SOCIETY WITH
DEMONSTRATORS OF THIS TYPE? IN WHICH OTHER DEMOCRATIC
COUNTRY COULD SUCH A PROVOCATION HAVE TAKEN PLACE WITHOUT
ANY OTHER CONSEQUENCES THAN A DAY IN JAIL? UNQUOTE

C. JYLLANDS-POSTEN (INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE):

QUOTE IT IS ODD THAT PEACEFUL PEOPLE CAN BE FINED FOR QUIET WALKS IN WOODS, WHILE TERRORISTS, PEOPLE INSULTING HER MAJESTY, AND OTHER TYPES OF ASSAILANTS ARE NOT PROSECUTED. UNQUOTE.

D. KRISTELIGT DABGLAD (CHRISTIAN): QUOTE IT IS NO

WONDER THAT PEOPLE ARE ANNOYED BY WHAT HAPPENED AT REBILD. SOCIETY WHICH HAS BEEN SO PERMISSIVE FOR DECADES IN ITS TALK ABOUT TOLERANCE SHOULD STRESS THE FACT THAT RESPECT FOR OTHERS IS A PRECONDITION FOR TOLERANCE. UNQUOTE

E. THE ONLY PAPER TO DEFEND THE DEMONSTRATION WAS INFORMATION (INTELLECTUAL LEFTIST) WHICH SAID QUOTE THE ACTIVISTS AS A GROUP HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ANY COMMUNIST PARTY, EITHER DANISH OR FOREIGN-SUPPORTED. THEIR AIM WAS TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD TO THE SUPPRESSION OF INDIANS IN AMERICA AND TO THE US ATTEMPTS TO SUPPRESS KOREA, VIETNAM AND CUBA. ONE DOES NOT NEED TO BE A COMMUNIST TO DO THAT. UNQUOTE.

6. COMMENT: THREE CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT HAVE ALREADY QUESTIONED DANISH GOVT IN WRITING; FIRST, ABOUT LACK OF POLICE PROTECTION FOR QUEEN, SECOND ABOUT SUBSIDY GIVEN TO THIS GROUP, AND THIRD, ABOUT DANISH LEGISLATION WHICH HAS BEEN INTERPRETED BY POLICE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO PREVENT ANY MEASURES BEING TAKEN IN ADVANCE

AGAINST SUCH DEMONSTRATIONS. WE BELIEVE THIS DEBATE IS A HEALTHY ONE AND PERHAPS WILL LEAD THE DANES TO REALIZE THAT EVEN IF THEY PERMIT DISSIDENT GROUPS TO DEMONSTRATE, THEY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD DO SO IN MANNER WHICH DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH OTHERS. ON THE WHOLE, THE DISRUPTION CAUSED BY THE DEMONSTRATORS AND THE UNDEMOCRATIC METHODS USED BY THEM WAS VOCALLY CONDEMNED BY THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE DANISH POPULATION WHICH, DURING THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR, HAS SHOWN ON MANY OCCASIONS ITS FRIENDSHIP TOWARD THE US. DEAN

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